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THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 1906.

A grateful thought toward heaven is of itself a prayer.
—Lessing.

The French Presidency.

The election of Armand Fallières, president of the French Senate, as the successor of Emile Loubet, was no surprise to students of French politics, commanding as he did the support of Radical-Socialist group the denomination "Bloc". Fallières had been generally looked upon as the most likely candidate. The common prediction that Doumer, president of the Chamber of Deputies, would make a prominent second, also turns out to be well grounded.

Loubet was elected president on February 18, 1892. His seven-year term will expire one month from to-day, and he has entertained no desire to secure a second one. Though France has had a Republican government since 1870, Loubet is the second president to have served out his full term. Francis Paul Jules Grevy, was the other. Six presidents, one of them Grevy, in his second term, have resigned or died in office. Since McMahon, the post has been rather honorary and ornamental than in any sense politically powerful.

A presidential election in France is not attended with stump-speaking, systematic campaigning or national convention. The people have nothing to do with it except to abide by the result. Hence the general lack of excitement with which the occasion is received. The election is done by the Senators and Deputies, sitting together as the National Assembly. A majority vote is necessary to election. The National Assembly consists of 893 delegates, but at yesterday's election some twenty or thirty less was present.

The French president draws \$30,000 a year, and gets the occupancy of two handsome palaces, formerly owned by the Royal Family. His ministers are virtually named for him by the Chamber of Deputies, and his official acts must all be passed upon by a minister. The representative body thus has an excellent check upon him. His main duties are to be safe, sane and free from dangerous ambitions, and to play his largely decorative part with unaggressiveness and dignity.

Emile Loubet has made in many ways an ideal president. Fallières, who represents the same political principles, will no doubt make a perfectly satisfactory successor.

Unfair to Virginia.

The statement having been made that Virginia is not in position to enforce a school attendance law because she is not able to provide necessary schools, the Columbia State rises to inquire what is the matter with Virginia? "If that State has not the schools to give every boy and girl a common school education," says the State, "she should get them, and if the treasury is empty money should be received by special levy."

We tell our South Carolina contemporary that there is nothing the matter with Virginia; that Virginia is able to provide schools for all the children and that the people have shown every disposition to tax themselves accordingly. The school authorities are using every means at their command to increase the attendance. Some counties even send wagons around to the various homes in order to induce all the children to attend school. We require that a certain average shall be maintained in order to keep a school open; yet there is no compulsion whatsoever upon the children to attend. The responsibility is upon the teacher, and yet the teacher cannot make the children come to school. On the one hand we are endeavoring to increase the attendance and on the other the cry is set up that if all the children take the State at its word, the school will be overwhelmed. All statements that Virginia is not able or willing to provide schools for all the children are unfair to the wealth and sentiment of the State.

Proceeding to speak of the objections of those who oppose compulsion, the Columbia State says that while the parents have rights, their rights do not extend to the extreme of preventing the child from placing itself in a position to be a useful citizen. But when we talk of the rights of the child to be educated, we are met with the argument that the child also has the right to be clothed and fed, washed and coddled, as though the State guaranteed any such rights as these to the child. The State makes it obligatory upon the father to support his child at

his own expense, and makes it a misdemeanor for him to fail to do so. But the State makes an exception in the case of education and has recognized and established the right of the child to be educated at the public expense. She also exercises her right to tax her citizens to support the public schools, but when it is argued that she has the right to enforce the child's rights, gentlemen hold up their hands in horror and declare that this a base usurpation, an outrageous trespass upon the sacred rights of the father. If the father fails to provide his child with food and raiment and shelter, the State compels him to do it, but if he fails to allow his child to have an education at the cost of the State, there must be no interference. He must not fail to provide for the bodily needs of his child, but he may deprive it of its mental needs, although the State supplies the means of education, and no question must be asked.

We cannot appreciate such reasoning. It places the State in a ridiculous attitude at home and abroad, and makes a false impression. It is not asked that a compulsory law applying to the whole State be enacted at once. But it is asked that those counties and cities which desire to adopt a compulsory regulation may have the privilege of doing so. Compulsory attendance is coming by and by, and the sooner we begin to prepare for it the better.

Major Dooley's Position.

Yesterday we referred to criticisms in numerous newspapers of Major James H. Dooley's article on the proposal to confer upon the Interstate Commerce Commission the power to fix rates. In the following paper Major Dooley replies in brief to his critics and restates his position. He says:

"Sundry editorials have appeared in the Virginia papers, criticizing my article on rate regulation by the government; but none of them appear to meet the main issue.

"My position on this question, briefly summarized, is as follows:

"First. The regulation of rates is the regulation of the cost of transportation.

"Second. The cost of goods delivered in competitive markets, is the cost of production, plus the cost of transportation.

"The cost of transportation is often more than the cost of production; as, for instance, upon the very important article of coal, the cost of transportation to the competitive markets is several times greater than the cost of production, consequently it is the cost of transportation, that fixes the price in competitive markets.

"Third. To give the government the right to control the cost of transportation, is to give the government the power to regulate the price, at which the South may sell its goods in competitive markets.

"Fourth. I show that the government has been since the war, substantially, a government of the North and West, through the Republican party.

"Fifth. That history shows, the North and West and the Republican party have not been friendly to the interests of the South, but have always used the government for their benefit and to our prejudice, and they are doing so, at the present time.

"Sixth. That the South is looming up as a rival of the old established industries of the North and West in competitive markets. I do not believe any one has assented any of these propositions.

"Seventh. That it is unwise for the South to place the power in the hands of unfriendly rivals, to fix the price, at which her goods may be sold in competitive markets. I do not believe any one has assented any of these propositions.

"Cur congressmen, Mr. Lamb, for whom I have the most friendly feelings, is reported to have said, that he knew of no conspiracy on the part of the North and West to do the South. I did not see there was a conspiracy; I said the North and West were unfriendly to the material interests of the South. The North and West are the Republican party. If any one wishes to know the disposition of that party towards the interests of the South, let him read its platform promulgated in the last national convention, wherein it declared, in favor of reducing our representation in Congress, because we have adopted qualified suffrage.

"They are prevented from doing this, only by lack of constitutional power. All the criticisms I have seen, are directed to immaterial points, and do not meet the main issue."

Road Building.

Several interesting points relating to the employment of convicts on the public roads are presented in a communication printed elsewhere, and signed "H. W." Our correspondent is a distinguished citizen who has had long experience in the government service, and who has given attention to questions of this character.

In speaking of the relative expense of convicts and free labor on the public roads, he says that the fact seems to have been overlooked that if convicts are not employed the expense of their maintenance at the public charge goes on. That is true of jail convicts, but not true altogether of penitentiary convicts, for persons confined in the penitentiary are nearly all profitably employed. The penitentiary, so far from being a burden upon the State, has for years been a profitable institution, but the jail convicts are a dead expense, and the feature of the Lassiter-Withers plan, which commends itself to us, is that it contemplates the employment of men who now spend their time in idleness in the public jails.

We heartily agree with our correspondent that if work on the roads is to be done by any class of convicts, the point of highest consideration should be the quality rather than the quantity of such work. This is not only for the good of the work, but for the education of the convict. All public work should be the best, and if we employ the convicts we should make of them a force of expert road-makers.

The Poll Tax.

We cannot believe that the Democratic members of the General Assembly will follow the lead of a Republican and adopt a resolution, having in view the repeal of that clause in the Constitution which requires that poll-taxes shall be paid in advance as a prerequisite to

the right to vote. It is an eminently just provision as it stands, and it works no hardship. The poll-tax is not a property tax, but a head tax and is assessable against all alike, against those who have no taxable property, as well as those who have.

The property owner can be made to pay in any event, but the only way to reach the man who has no taxable effects is through the franchise. This tax goes in the main to the public school fund and it is the only tax that many patrons of the public schools pay. The man who is not willing to pay such a tax for the privilege of voting sets a very low value upon his vote, and it is a travesty to talk of amending the Constitution in this respect for his benefit.

The South and Jamestown.

Mr. W. P. Gunn, secretary of the Board of Trade of Bessemer, Ala., in a communication to the Birmingham Ledger, impresses the fact that nearly every Northern and Eastern State is preparing to make an exhibit at the Jamestown Exposition in 1907, for the reason, as he says, that the South is the great field of progress, and that it is in their interest to advertise as well as they may in Southern territory. He, therefore, urges upon the people of his own section and the people of the South in general the importance of taking advantage of the opportunity to advertise their wares and resources. Especially does he commend the Jamestown Exposition to the industrial enterprises of the Birmingham district, and insists that a suitable exhibit of the manufactures in that section should be made.

It would be a disappointment, indeed, and a reflection upon Southern enterprise if the Birmingham district failed to have such an exhibit at the Jamestown Exposition. We hope that the people of that section and the people of the whole South will take to heart the hint which Mr. Gunn has thrown out and that the South will make it a point to have a better exhibit at Jamestown than the States of the North.

The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot reproduces from our columns an article in which we enumerated bills introduced in the General Assembly in one day as evidence of the educational spirit of Virginia. By way of comment, it says:

"That the educational spirit is abroad in all Virginia is a fact too well and generally known to need verification by such an array of bills, but if verification were needed, could these measures in themselves be safely accepted as such? On education, as on every other subject which engages the attention of the Legislature, there are bills and bills, the value of which depends upon their character rather than upon their number. The above list is satisfactory as to number, but of the character of the separate bills we are unable to judge intelligently, because of lack of knowledge of their provisions."

The idea we had in mind was that this outpouring of educational bills showed that popular education is a very live topic in Virginia.

No. Eustace, the parties referred to in the line from a well known song: "One had the pick and the other had the hoe," are not connected in any way with the work on the Panama Canal.

"Atlanta," says the Journal of that city, "is to spend \$15,000 during 1906 to lay new water mains." Evidently one of those New Year resolutions we've all heard tell of.

Secretary Taft is losing weight somewhat rapidly, it is true, but we trust we are not inaccurate in continuing to refer to him as Mr. Poultony Bigelow's fat friend.

The eagerness of France and Germany in regard to Morocco merely demonstrates that competition in its undertaking business is as keen as ever.

It is earnestly to be hoped that neither of our delegates to the Moroccan conference is even remotely connected with the celebrated Butinski family.

In the recent Santo Domingo battle several generals were killed. It is rumored that the private, however, escaped with a scratch.

The General Assembly wasted a vast deal of well prepared eloquence, but there is plenty more on tap and ready for occasion.

The President of the French Republic gets more pay than the President of the United States, but he doesn't have half the fun running.

Governor Higgins appears firmly committed to the policy of keeping all light under a bushel, with the lid screwed down.

If Pittsburghers would quit smoking stogies they would soon improve their town till it would be no smokier than Chicago.

Congress's table is undoubtedly an extra strong one. They lay nearly everything on it.

But how willing the canal commissioners are to shovel out reams of explanatory foolscap!

Possibly Mr. Johann Hech was only trying, in his own way, to discover how to be happy, though polygamous.

To break up a bad cold and prevent pneumonia the Bitters is especially good. Start to-day. It also cures

Poor Appetite, Heartburn, Dyspepsia, Constipation, Indigestion, Female Ills, or Malaria.

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THE GARDEN MAGAZINE COUNTRY LIFE IN AMERICA THE WORLD'S WORK DOUBLEDAY PAGE & CO NEW YORK

Rhymes for To-Day.

Uncle Sam in a European Conference.

The delegates were starting to a certain conference, Which was called to aid old Destiny in shaping out events; When, fearing their instructions were left open rather wide, The secretary beckoned them and led them both aside.

"Er—gentlemen," he murmured, "when the arguments begin, To decide Morocco's finish, you will kindly not butt in; And later when the pros and cons have all been duly heard, Simply sit alike wisdom's images, but don't you say a word."

"Just one thing further, gentlemen, that you will kindly note: Whatever comes, the government forbids you both to vote; And should the others ask you whether this or that is so, Just giggle very civil and say: 'We do not know.'"

These orders struck the delegates as being very plain; They thanked the secretary and embarked at once for Spain, And as they sailed the younger one observed: "Say, what's the call? I wonder why the dickens they are sending us at all?"

H. S. H.

Merely Joking.

Gratitude.—Madam, dat wuz a fine meal," said Westy Wiggin. "I like to saw some wood fer youse." "We burn only gas," "Den permit me, madam, to turn off de burner fer youse. I must do something to show me appreciation."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Bright Boy.—High Financier: "My son, I am pained to hear that you are at the foot of the class." Son: "Why, pa, I judged from your testimony that it was proper for me to know anything at all."—New York Sun.

Safer Plan.—Cynic (savagely): "They say the fashionable mother of to-day recognizes her baby only by looking at the nurse." Fashionable Mother (dever): "How extraordinarily clever when one changes nurses so often."—London Tit-Bits.

Inexplicable Delay.—"They had only been engaged a week when he borrowed money from her father." "Why did he wait so long?"—Judge.

A Matter of Price.—Reporter: "I incline to what do you attribute your long life?" Oldest Inhabitant: "I don't know yit, young fellow. They's several of these patent medicine companies that's dickerin' with me."—Chicago Tribune.

Entering a Demurrer.—"Obviously," said the lecturer, "what we need is a more elastic currency, for the reason—" "Not me," interrupted the shabby man in the front row. "What I need is a more adhesive currency." Whereat there was loud applause. It appeared there were others.—Chicago Tribune.

Tongue-Tied.—A carpenter, who was named Chalmers, was stupid, and did his work bolmondeley.

When reproved by his boss, He was quite at a loss. For words, so just looked around dolmondeley.

Judge.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

January 18th.

1815—Stanislaus, Chevalier de Bonfours, died at Paris, aged seventy-eight.

1816—Thanksgiving throughout England on the restoration of peace.

1855—The county treasurer of Sonora, Cal., murdered and robbed by Edward Griffith, who was lynched the following day.

1854—Judah Touro died at New Orleans, aged seventy-eight, bequeathing nearly two million dollars to the public institutions of that city.

1861—The Legislature of Virginia appropriated \$1,000,000 for the defense of the State.

1865—Governor Oglesby, of Illinois, called for the organization of ten new regiments of troops for service in the South.

1875—The German Chancellor asked the Federal Assembly to prohibit the importation of American potatoes as a precaution against potato disease.

1879—The general award bill passed the House, reviving the commissioners of Alabama claims and providing for payments of premiums for war risks, limited to the actual loss. Not acted upon in the Senate.

1884—Steamer City of Columbus wrecked off Gay Head, Mass.; ninety-seven lives lost.

1885—Seventeen patients were burned to death in the destruction of a cottage at the Kankakee, Ill., insane hospital.

1887—Edward Livingston Youmans, editor of the Popular Science Monthly, dies in New York, aged sixty-five.

1904—General Assembly of Richmond, Va., gives brilliant german, Pickett Camp honors memories of Longstreet and Gordon.

1905—Benjamin Stone, of Missouri, accused President of having received traitor aid.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS

Fancy Work.

Will you give me the address of some place or places where employ ladies to do fancy drawn work. Please answer in your "Query Column."

M. C. B. Suppose you try the Woman's Exchange, on Franklin Street.

A Latin Quotation.

Please translate for a school girl, who has just begun study of Latin, the following: "Nec reges, nec populi ad utroque."

Whether of the king nor by the people, but by both.

Pronunciation.

Please answer, in your Query Columns, which is correct, corn is tassling or tassling.

Is it right to have your knife and fork on your plate when passing your plate to be helped, or should it be removed; and oblige.

A SUBSCRIBER.

1. Tassling.
2. It is a matter of taste. As a matter of common sense, it is better to take the knife and fork out, when passing your plate.

Rights of Stockholders.

If a stockholder is led, through an error, to purchase a stock, and the statement of the company's business, sent out by its president to buy additional stock, what recourse has he?

STOCK. We do not see that a stockholder would have any redress in the case stated. The corporation law of the State, affords full protection against willful and intentional mis-statements, but not against mere mistakes.

Thanksgiving Football.

Will you kindly publish, in your Query Column, since won the foot ball game played on Thanksgiving Day, between University of Virginia and University of North Carolina, and also of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and Virginia Military Institute?

OLD SUBSCRIBER.

Carolina won in Norfolk, and the Virginia Polytechnic Institute in Richmond.

J. P. Morgan.

Please tell me how Mr. Pierpont Morgan married, how many children he has and how much is he estimated to be worth, and what classes of business is he engaged in and oblige a reader. V. S.

In 1881 he married Amelia Sturges, who died in 1882. In 1885 he married Frances Louise Tracy. He has one son, three daughters and eight grandchildren. We do not know what his fortune amounts to.

A Question of Propriety.

Is it proper or improper, when a lady visitor is receiving a caller, lady or gentleman, for her to enter the room without a rap or some little notice that others will enter?

A READER. Ordinarily we should say that there would be no impropriety for a member of the family to enter without knocking. But if the room be occupied by a courting couple, it would be considerate to give notice.

A Quotation.

What is the origin of the expression "Footprints in the sand of Time?"

S. M. W. It is said to have been suggested by a letter of the First Napoleon to his Minister of the Interior, respecting the poor laws. "It is melancholy," he says, "to see time passing away without being put to its full value. Surely the footprints of the past should be made to do something, that we may not live in vain, that we may leave some impress of our lives on the sands of Time."

The Mob.

Who first called the mob "the great unwashed"? P. S. T. The origin of the expression is a disputed point. Burke certainly applied the term to the mob, but the epithet was used before, for Gay, in his "Ballad on Quiddity," writes: "The King of late drew forth his sword—Thank God, 'twas not in wrath—And made of many a squiff and lord, An unwashed Knight of Bath."

Making a Will.

Can a man will all his property, except widow's dower, to any person or persons whom he will, regardless of his children, or must he give each child something? What is the smallest amount he may give a child? Must the testator make equal provisions for each of his children? Would a will in which he bequeathed his father, are the children of the person so dying legal heirs with the children of the intestate?

Yes, he can leave his children nothing at all if he chooses, or he can leave one or more a share without leaving the others anything, or he can divide the property among his children, or he can make the children of a dead parent take the part that would have passed to that parent as an heir.

Teachers' Certificates.

Will you please answer the following questions in your query column soon? Miss A. has finished her education necessary to teach in the district schools of Michigan and has received a certificate good for life, providing she has good success in teaching. She has taught one year and received a splendid recommendation. Can she teach in Virginia on that same certificate?

A SUBSCRIBER.

The authority to grant certificates to teach in the public schools is now lodged in the State Board of Examiners and Inspectors, who are authorized to issue collegiate certificates to persons of good moral character who present diplomas of full graduation from colleges and universities of approved standing, and professional certificates to holders of the State Normal Schools of Virginia. All other applicants are required to stand an examination before they are permitted to teach in the public schools of Virginia.

Ginner's Reports.

I, as a cotton ginner, am of the impression the ginning reports required of the government is detrimental to my interest and for that reason do not want to give them. Do you think the government can force me to give them. If I would refuse what, would likely be the consequences.

The government cannot compel you to give such information. It is a matter of discretion with you.

Green Tomato Pickles.

Please give me a recipe for making green tomato pickles? READER. Put the tomatoes whole into brine and keep for two days, changing the water once a day. Then place in a large shallow pan and pour in enough vinegar to cover the tomatoes thoroughly. Cook until a stew can be run through the pickles, and they are quite tender. Season with cloves, spice, cinnamon, red pepper, etc. These can be bought at any grocery store. Ready put up in pickle jars under the name of "pickle seasoning." If you do not desire the seasoning to mix into the pickle, put in a small bag and immerse in the boiling vinegar. If the pickle is desired sugar may be added to taste.

Antwerp's docks and wharves are among the finest on the globe, and it is spending \$500,000,000 to improve them, although its population is only 800,000.

A MATTER OF HEALTH

ROYAL BAKING POWDER

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